



NEWS RELEASE

No. 06-065

June 2, 2006

Contact: Jane Chavey, Olympia, 360-902-1721

Or Steve Gibbs, Olympia, 360-902-1706

Eastern Washington Forest Landowners Invited to Educational Field Day June 24

‘Out in the woods’ learning on forest health, wildlife habitat, thinning, and more

OLYMPIA – Individuals and families who own forest land in eastern Washington, north Idaho, and western Montana will have an opportunity to learn more about caring for their land at a Regional Forest Owners Field Day on June 24 near Careywood, Idaho.

Participants will have the opportunity for “out in the woods” learning covering a variety of topics repeated throughout the day, including: forest health, wildlife habitat enhancement, thinning and pruning, conducting a timber sale, non-timber forest products, forest measurements, and identification and control of noxious weeds. The event also will feature a live demonstration of unique small-scale forestry equipment including logging with an all terrain vehicle and a pedal-powered bicycle tree pruner.

For those landowner participants who register in advance, there also will be a special session on how they can learn to use Global Positioning Systems.

Since 1996, more than 4,000 family forest owners have attended Forest Owners Field Day events at venues across Washington and Idaho, according to Steve Gibbs, Forest Stewardship Program Manager for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, one of the event’s sponsors. “We always get excellent feedback from the landowners who attend,” said Gibbs.

“They really appreciate the practical ‘how to’ information they receive,” added Kirk David, who coordinates forest landowner assistance for the Idaho Department of Lands, another event sponsor.

Event location, registration and lunch arrangements

The event will be held at the **Ray and Fairy DeLay Tree Farm** on US Highway 95 between mileposts 454 and 455, about half way between Coeur d’Alene and Sandpoint, Idaho. Posted along the road will be large yellow “Forest Owners Field Day” signs.

- **Pre-registration by June 16** is \$15 per person or \$25 for two or more.
- **Registration at the door** is \$20 per person or \$30 for two or more.
- **Hot lunch must be ordered by June 16.** Lunch tickets will not be sold at the event.
- **Gates open** at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, June 24.
- **Hourly presentations** will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m.

To receive an event brochure with complete details and a registration form, call DNR’s 24-hour toll-free request line at 1-888-783-9548 or email: forest_stewardship@wadnr.gov

The event is supported, in part, by USDA Forest Service–Cooperative Programs.

#